

COMMENTS OF MR. ROBERT MILLER
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian Affairs
Department of State

1. Mr. Miller is on TDY and will not be back until 9 November. Thus, his comments are not attainable at this time. Moreover, he has been on his present job for a very short period and would not have knowledge about a six-month swatch of CIA reports.

2. In general, however, Mr. Miller, based on previous discussions with him, appears to find the special publications of considerable interest. But like many others, he finds himself swamped by the glut of intelligence production -- much of which is simply duplicatory in nature.

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COMMENTS OF MR. MORT ABRAMOWITZ
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs
(East Asia and Pacific Affairs)

1. Never reads the "Weekly Review."

2. The "EIW" is of no value.

3. The biweekly "Survey of Communist Military Developments in Indochina" is exceedingly useful.

4. The "Developments in Indochina" is a useful pub.

5. In general, Mr. Abramowitz finds the aperiodic publications of value, but he questions whether enough of them are produced. (He acknowledges that he has been in his present position for a short period.) Even so, he wonders if the CIA -- and the Intelligence Community as a whole -- is really asking itself the right questions often enough so that they can stay ahead of the power curve rather than be reactive.

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COMMENTS OF MR. RICHARD SMYZER
NSC Staff Member Responsible for East Asia

1. The "Weekly Review" is of very little value. It is merely repetitive of what appears in the daily pubs and as such is not worth taking the time to read.

2. The "EIW" is occasionally useful.

3. The "Developments in Indochina" is scanned depending on whether there is time. It is useful to those on the staff.

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(Mr. Richard Smyzer, NSC Staff, continued)

4. The biweekly "Survey of Communist Military Developments in Indochina" is also scanned. It is, however, very useful to those on the staff responsible for Indochina.

5. The "International Oil Developments" is very useful -- not so much on Southeast Asia, but on the rest of Asia [REDACTED]

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6. The special publications are well received. They provide enough meat on important subjects to permit a solid appreciation of the situation. None has been ill-received. In general, would like to see more in the way of special publications and less on the day-to-day nitty gritty. Those on the staff might find the day-to-day stuff of more value.

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COMMENTS OF MR. KENNETH QUINN
NSC Staff Member Responsible for Southeast Asia

1. The "Weekly Review" is marginal at best since the material making it up has already been received, either in the daily pubs or in raw form.

2. The "EIW" is marginal at best.

3. The biweekly "Survey of Communist Military Developments in Indochina" is extremely valuable and provides a very useful vehicle for continuity on an important subject.

4. The monthly "Economic Situation in South Vietnam" is valuable because it provides a wrap-up and analysis of a complex problem.

5. The "Developments in Indochina" is a useful publication which serves to flag items that might otherwise get lost in the shuffle.

6. Special publications (aperiodic) are invaluable. They provide treatment of subjects of concern and in sufficient detail to give a full flavor of the problems involved. Their timeliness is also welcomed; often they precede what is just emerging as an issue which will require high level policy attention. No real need to specify any particular pub since they are all useful. The only problem area over the past six months has concerned the question of Soviet and Chinese military aid to North Vietnam where some of the important caveats regarding what was and was not included tended to be omitted in some of the publications.

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COMMENTS OF MR. L. BRUCE LAINGEN
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
(Bureau of Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs)

Mr. Laingen, who was in the process of leaving for South Asia on the day I called, offered a few brief comments.

1. The "Weekly Review" is useful, but there is not much coverage in it on South Asia.

2. The "EIW" and "International Oil Developments" have little value vis-a-vis South Asia, although they are of considerable value on the Near East.

3. Special publications are valuable. Almost anything done along such lines serves a purpose -- if only to bring information and analysis to one's attention. The recently completed briefing book in support of Dr. Kissinger's trip to South Asia was exceedingly useful. There have been no publications that caused major problems, although in general there is not very much produced on South Asia, and there probably should be more.

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COMMENTS OF MR. ROBERT OAKLEY
NSC Staff Member Responsible for South Asia

1. In general, there is just too much stuff churned out by all elements of the Intelligence Community.

2. The "Weekly Review" is of value except that it is duplicatory of the daily material which deluges one.

3. The "EIW" is marginal at best.

4. There is far too much duplication between the "NIB" and the "NID" -- both should be shorter. (Volunteered information which was not solicited.)

5. Special publications (aperiodic) are extremely valuable since they focus in on problems that are current and provide enough background and projection to permit a real appreciation of the subject. Three items of considerable merit were: 1) The Briefing Book of "Memoranda in Support of the Secretary of State's Trip to South Asia"; 2) the OPR paper on "India: Developing Power or Developing Power Vacuum", and 3) the OPR study on "Potential Implications of Trends in World Population, Food Production, and Climate." The latter two publications were valuable because they represented theses that were broad in scope and not necessarily held by all of those working on the problems.

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COMMENTS OF MR. JAMES H. NOYES

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs
(Near Eastern, African, and South Asian Affairs)

Mr. Noyes did not have time to talk. He is in the process of preparing to leave on a trip to South Asia and the Near East (he will be in Dr. Kissinger's entourage). In general, however, he felt that there probably was not enough attention paid to South Asia in the Agency's various publications, although this might be rectified now that Dr. Kissinger had decided to visit the area.

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